

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9704
INFO AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, UN, MV
SUBJ: MALDIVES PERMREP CALL ON USUN

1. MAUMOON ABDUL GAYOOM, AMBASSADOR AND PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE MALDIVES TO THE UNITED NATIONS, CALLED UPON AMBASSADOR BENNETT OCT 7. HIS PURPOSE WAS TO SOLICIT ADVICE IN OBTAINING HOUSING FOR THE MALDIVE MISSION TO THE UN.

2. BENNETT ASSURED GAYOOM THAT USUN WOULD BE PLEASED TO ASSIST HIM. IN THE GENERAL CONVERSATION, THE MALDIVE REPRESENTATIVE MADE THE FOLLOWING REMARKS OF NOTE:
A. LAST YEAR AT THE UNGA (30TH) THE NORTH KOREAN DELEGATION HAD BEEN UNDULY INSISTENT IN PESTERING FOR MALDIVE SUPPORT OF THE NK RESOLUTION. IN THE END, THE MALDIVES HAD AVOIDED GIVING COMFORT TO THE NK BY VOTING FOR THE FRIENDLY RESOLUTION AS AMENDED BY THE FRENCH.
B. THE IMPROVED ATMOSPHERE AT THE 31ST GA IS DUE IN LARGE MEASURE TO THE U.S. INTEREST BEING SHOWN IN AFRICAN AFFAIRS. THE MALDIVES ARE PLEASED WITH THE EFFORTS OF SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER IN RHODESIA AND SOUTHERN AFRICA AND DESIRE HIS EFFORTS TO BE SUCCESSFUL.
C. OF THE ISSUES FACING THE UN, THE MALDIVES ARE MOST DIRECTLY INTERESTED IN THE NEAR EAST PROBLEM. IN GENERAL, THE MALDIVES EXPECT TO SUPPORT THE ARAB STATES, PRIMARILY BECAUSE OF ISLAMIC TIES.

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3. GAYOOM PRESENTED HIS CREDENTIALS AS MALDIVE AMBASSADOR AND PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE UN LAST WEEK, WHICH ARE NOW BEING PROCESSED. HE WILL ESTABLISH A THREE-MAN MISSION IN NEW YORK CITY, AND IS PRESENTLY SEARCHING FOR ACCOMMODATIONS.

4. MISSION OFFICER ALREADY IN CONTACT WITH GAYOOM PRIOR USUN VISIT FOR PURPOSES CULTIVATION AND WELCOMING. RESULTS CONVERSATIONS FROM TENTATIVELY ARRANGED LUNCH WILL BE FORWARDED WHEN OBTAINED.
SCRANTON

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